REMARKS

This paper is filed in response to the official action dated June 29,2004 (hereafter, the "official action"). This paper is timely-filed as it is accompanied by a petition for an extension of time to file in the first month and a check covering the requisite extension fee of \$110.

Prior to entry of the foregoing amendments, claims 1-28 were pending. By the foregoing amendments, claims 12, 17, 18, 20, and 24 have been amended, claims 1-11, 27, and 28 have been cancelled without prejudice or disclaimer, and new claims 29-31 have been added. No fee is due for new claims 29-31. Claims 12-26 and 29-31 are at issue.

The claim amendments merely correct typographical errors. Support for new claim 29 may be found, for example, at the second full paragraph of page 4. Support for new claim 30 may be found, for example, at the second full paragraph of page 8. Support for new claim 31 may be found, for example, at the second and third full paragraphs of page 8 and page 9. No new matter has been added.

Claims 1-4, 6-11, 27, and 28 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Pat. No. 6,063,527 to Nishikawa *et al*. Claim 5 has been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as obvious over Nishikawa *et al*. in view of U.S. Pat. No. 6,159,779 to Huang *et al*.

Claims 12-26 have been indicated to be allowable.

The various bases for the claim rejections are addressed below in the order presented in the official action. Reconsideration of the application, in view of the following remarks, is solicited.

CLAIM REJECTIONS

Claims 1-4, 6-11, 27, and 28 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Pat. No. 6,063,527 to Nishikawa *et al*. Additionally, claim 5 has been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as obvious over Nishikawa *et al*. in view of U.S. Pat. No. 6,159,779 to Huang *et al*.

The rejections of claims 1-11, 27, and 28 are most in view of the cancellation of these claims herein, and the rejections therefore should be withdrawn.

NEW CLAIMS 29-31

New claims 29-31 depend from claim 12, which has been indicated to be allowable. It is respectfully submitted that new claims 29-31 are also therefore allowable.

CONCLUSION

It is respectfully submitted that this application is now in condition for allowance. Should the examiner wish to discuss the foregoing, or any matter of form or procedure in an effort to advance this application to allowance, he is respectfully invited to contact the undersigned attorney at the indicated telephone number.

Respectfully submitted,

MARSHALL, GERSTEIN & BORUN LLP

October 29, 2004

ames P. Zeller, Reg. No. 28,491

Attorney for Applicants

6300 Sears Tower

233 S. Wacker Drive

Chicago, Illinois 60606-6357

(312) 474-6300